TRAVELING LIBRARIES

OHIO STATE LIBRARY

Library commission.

COLUMBUS, OHIO

AUGUST 1, 1900

TRAVELING LIBRARIES

STATE

OBJECTS: 1—To furnish good literature to the public. 2—To strengthen small libraries. 3—To create an interest in the establishment of new libraries.

A Traveling Library is a collection of from twenty-five to thirty-five books sent out by the State Library to a reading club, an association of citizens, a board of education or a public library, to be kept three months, with privilege of renewal.

On receipt of a request on the forms furnished by the State Library, properly filled by the members of the club, the officers of a free public library, board of education, or other association, the books will be shipped. The parties receiving the books must pay transportation both ways.

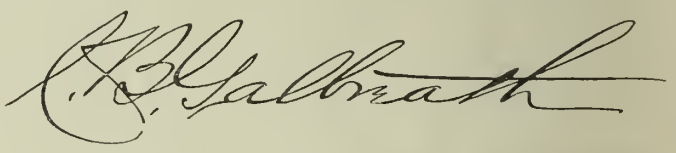
No catalogues of books in the circulating department of the State Library are sent to patrons, for the following reasons: 1—We have no appropriation for the publication of a catalogue. 2—We are continually adding new books, and a catalogue would not show what could be furnished. 3—Thousands of books are continually in circulation, and we would rarely be able to furnish the list made from a catalogue.

Where patrons desire it, a list of books can be made in accordance with general directions and submitted for approval before the Traveling Library is shipped.

If a list of the books desired is sent with the application, it will be furnished as nearly as possible; if only the general subjects are named, books relating to those subjects will be sent.

On the map opposite will be found a representation of what had been done by the State in circulating Traveling Libraries to June 1, 1900. These were sent out to schools, granges, women's clubs, and independent study clubs. About four-fifths of them went to communities that have no local libraries.

The Ohio State Library desires a wider circulation for its Traveling Libraries. Those interested are invited to correspond.



State Librarian and Secretary of Library Commission.

COUNTY

Chiefly through the efforts of Judge Tod B. Galloway, of Columbus, Ohio, the free traveling library system of Franklin county has been established. Already forty-six of these libraries are in continuous circulation in the rural school districts of the county. The results have surpassed the most sanguine expectations of the friends of the movement. The work is directed by an executive committee consisting of the county school examiners, C. L. Dickey, of Clintonville, O., J. A. Wilcox, of Columbus, O., L. L. Pegg, of Columbus, O., and Judge Galloway who is superintendent of the system.

The Brumback Free Library of Van Wert, Ohio, is unique; it is supported by a tax levied on the county and is open to all the citizens of the county. It is the first library established under the general law enacted in 1898, authorizing commissioners under certain conditions to levy a tax for the support of a county library. The trustees are contemplating sending out traveling libraries to the post offices in the county where they will be readily accessible to patrons. The system is an ideal one of which Van Wert county may well be proud. A fine new building, the bequest of the late J. S. Brumback, is nearing completion.

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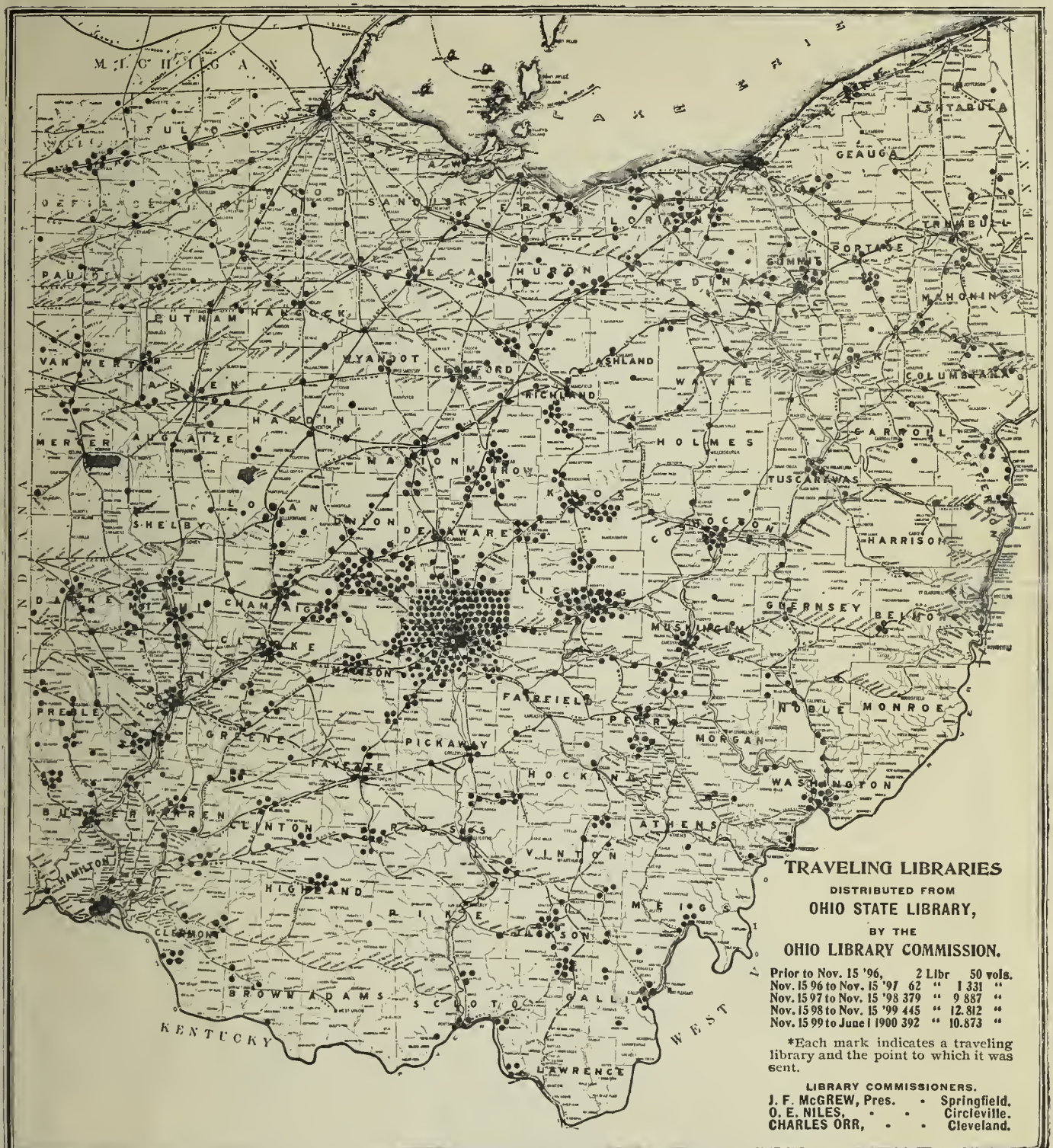

TRAVELING LIBRARIES

DISTRIBUTED FROM

OHIO STATE LIBRARY,

BY THE

OHIO LIBRARY COMMISSION.

Prior to Nov. 15 '96,	2 Libr	50 vols.
Nov. 15 96 to Nov. 15 '97	62 "	1 331 "
Nov. 15 97 to Nov. 15 '98	379 "	9 887 "
Nov. 15 98 to Nov. 15 '99	445 "	12. 812 "
Nov. 15 99 to June 1 1900	392 "	10.873 "

*Each mark indicates a traveling library and the point to which it was sent.

LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS.

J. F. McGREW, Pres. • Springfield.
O. E. NILES, • • Circleville.
CHARLES ORR, • • Cleveland.

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"Good books are safe friends."

"The true university is a collection of books."--Carlyle.

"Books are our teachers when school-days are ended."

"The traveling library — a boon to American country readers." William B. Shaw, in "Review of Reviews".

"Good books, like virtuous associations, are everything to the minds and morals of youth."—John Sloane, Sec'y. of State of Ohio, 1842.

"The traveling library should be encouraged. One of the chief reasons for its existence is the work it does in blazing the way for the permanent public library."—J. I. Wyer, Jr., of the University of Nebraska.

"The mission of the state library, so well begun in some states, so haltingly begun in others, will not have even neared its consummation till there is established between the humblest and remotest citizen and the state a relation by which, with the minimum friction, expense, and delay, the citizen may avail himself of so much of that soul nourishment and mind medicine as he may crave."—Johnson Brigham, State Librarian of Iowa.

"The Ohio State legislature made an appropriation of $4,000.00 for the establishment of a system of traveling libraries. A double blessing has resulted, one for those whose far seeing patriotism prompted them to make the appropriation; the other, for those whose lives were made brighter, outlook broader, sympathies deeper, and whose ambition was quickened and intensified. * * * The traveling library makes it possible for every grange in the state to secure for its neighborhood the advantages offered by our towns."—Mary E. Lee, in Ohio Farmer, Dec. 21st, 1899.

"We approve the liberal policy that has opened the Ohio State library on equal terms to all the citizens of the state. We heartily endorse the action of the last general assembly in appropriating $4,000.00 for the maintenance of a system of traveling libraries."—From resolutions adopted by Ohio State Teachers' Association, June 29, 1899.

"The state grange urgently recommend that subordinate granges make use of the excellent educational facilities offered by the traveling library, and recommend a liberal appropriation for the same." Adopted at last meeting of the Ohio State Grange.

"Once persuade the people that they can have a library if they want it and the battle is half won. A collection of fifty books, owned by an association, kept in a private house, and loaned to members on one stated day in the week, is easily within the reach of every neighborhood of a dozen houses in any country district of the state; and such a library is an infinite advance over no library at all."

"Ohio's system of traveling libraries is conducted on the plans laid down by the most thoughtful library workers and is more generous than in most states, in that it only asks that transportation be paid while other states demand a fee."—From Report of Library Committee, Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs.

The first traveling library was sent out from the Ohio State Library Nov. 6, 1896, since which time to date 1314 of these libraries have been issued.